GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4416
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2003
WELFARE SCHEME FOR CHILD LABOUR
JASWANT SINGH YADAV

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any new welfare scheme for the welfare of child labour working in various industries of the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government have decided to set up a National Commission on Child Labour to ameliorate the socio-economic condition of the child labour;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL)

(a) to (d): A Statement is Annexed.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4416 FOR 21.04.2003

(a) The Ministry of Labour has been implementing Scheme of National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs) since 1988 for elimination o child labour from hazardous occupations and processes. Under the Scheme, so far, presently 100 NCLPs are operational in various child labour endemic districts of 13 States in the country for coverage of 2.11 lakh children. The Scheme provides for rehabilitation of children withdrawn from work through rehabilitation centres/special schools by providing non-formal/formal education, vocational training, health check up, stipend and nutrition. So far, about 1.7 lakh children from these special schools have been mainstreamed into formal education system.

The Ministry has also been running a Scheme of Grant-in-aid to Non-Governmental Organizations/ Voluntary Organisations for running of action oriented projects for rehabilitation of child labour in non-NCLP districts.

(b): No, Sir.

(c): Does not arise.

(d): Government has taken a series of steps to address the problem of child labour in the country. A National Policy on Child Labour was announced by the Government in 1987 which envisages strict enforcement of child labour related laws, convergence of services for the benefit of parents of child labour in order to improve their economic conditions and launching of projects in areas of high concentration of child labour. Under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 the employment of children is prohibited in occupations/processes listed in the schedule to the Act. The employment conditions of children in other occupations and processes are regulated under the Act. Apart from legal measures, Government has taken steps for withdrawal and rehabilitation ofchild labour working in hazardous occupations as mentioned in (a) above.